

REMARKS

Claims 1-11, 14-17, and 19 are all the claims pending in the application. Claims 12, 13, and 18 have been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer by this Amendment.

Allowable Subject Matter

Applicants thank the Examiner for indicating that claims 9, 10, 13, and 19 contain allowable subject matter and would be allowed if rewritten in independent form (of which claim 13 has been canceled as noted above). However, Applicants respectfully request the Examiner to hold in abeyance such rewriting of the claims until the Examiner has had an opportunity to reconsider and withdraw the rejection of the other claims.

Prior Art Rejections

Claims 1-2, 6, 8, 11, and 14-17 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as allegedly being anticipated by Wall *et al.* (U.S. Patent No. 6,970,556, hereinafter “Wall”). Claims 3 and 4 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over Wall. Claims 5 and 7 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over Wall in view of Nebiker *et al.* (U.S. Patent No. 7,054,423, hereinafter “Nebiker”). Claims 12 and 18 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over Wall in view of Altschul *et al.* (U.S. Patent No. 6,405,056, hereinafter “Altschul”). For *at least* the following reasons, Applicants respectfully traverse the rejection.

Applicants respectfully submit that claim 1 is patentable over Wall, Nebiker, Altschul, or any combination thereof. For example, claim 1 relates to a key telephone set. The key telephone set comprises, *inter alia*, (1) a telephone main body comprising a handset placing unit, (2) an interchangeable dial button unit attached to said telephone main body, and (3) an interchangeable

line button unit attached to said telephone main body. The components (1)-(3) are structured so that said interchangeable dial button unit and said interchangeable line button unit are detachable from said telephone body without disassembly of said telephone main body. **The interchangeable line button unit is attached to said telephone main body with a first sliding attachment mechanism.**

The Examiner acknowledges that Wall does not disclose the above-noted “first-sliding attachment mechanism” feature of claim 1. Altschul is relied upon to teach this feature. Specifically, the Examiner contends that Altschul’s card 14 discloses the claimed interchangeable line button unit, and the card slot 32 and electrical connector 54 disclose the claimed first sliding attachment mechanism. See Office Action at page 5, paragraph 4. Applicants respectfully disagree.

Applicants respectfully submit that Altschul’s card 14 does not teach the claimed interchangeable line button unit. Rather, Altschul’s card 14 corresponds closest to the claimed interchangeable dial button unit. For instance, Altschul discloses that the “[c]ard 14 includes a selector in the form of a keypad 80 integrated with the body member 20 of the card 14...” (Altschul, col. 3, lines 27-32, emphasis added). Therefore, Altschul cannot teach or suggest an **interchangeable line button unit** being attached to a telephone main body with a first sliding attachment mechanism as claimed. Instead, Altschul at most discloses a keypad 80 attached to the base unit 12 via card slot 32. There is no line button unit in Altschul’s wireless telephone 10. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that claim 1 is patentable over the prior art of record.

Claim 11 recites features similar to those discussed above with respect to claim 1. Therefore, claim 11 is patentable for reasons similar to those given above with respect to claim 1.

Claims 2-8 and 14-17 are patentable *at least* by virtue of their dependency.

Conclusion

In view of the above, reconsideration and allowance of this application are now believed to be in order, and such actions are hereby solicited. If any points remain in issue which the Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.

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Respectfully submitted,



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